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## People stay in MSC despite bomb threat

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and  
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A bomb threat at the Memorial Student Center turned out to be a false alarm Wednesday afternoon. And while the bookstore and a few other areas in the MSC closed for about an hour, most people stayed in the building and took their chances. Police Chief Elmer E. Schneider said a worker at the MSC Print 'n' Copy received the threat around 1:45 p.m. that said a bomb would explode at 3:30 p.m. This threat makes the third call in

a week that was reported to University Police. The two previous threats were off campus. It is not known if they are linked with the bomb scare at the MSC.

Trena Wilroy, supervisor of Print 'n' Copy, said the caller sounded like a young male and he stumbled over several words as he made the threat.

"There's a bomb in the MSC, and it will go off at 3:30," the caller said. "Everybody in there will be killed."

Wilroy immediately called the University Police.

The police dispatcher said police searched only the copy center area and found nothing suspicious.

University Center Manager Steven Hodge said around 3:25 p.m. — five minutes before the caller's deadline — the threat was being treated as a prank. The managers of the various areas of the MSC could decide whether they wanted to close and for how long, he said.

The MSC Bookstore closed from about 3:15 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. The game area and bowling lanes in the basement and the Student Programs Office on the second floor also were closed.

Maintenance workers were stationed at all entrances except the

main one to keep people from entering the building.

At 3:20 p.m. more than one hundred high school drill team members were still dancing in a room on the second floor of the building.

A pianist kept playing in the main lounge and visiting fall freshmen and their parents remained in the MSC along with students.

"The managers are taking this too lightly," said a visitor in the MSC who asked not to be identified. "Even if it is a joke, there are a lot of people in here, and it could be a disaster if a bomb exploded."

Schneider said that when a bomb

threat is made the department tries to assess the danger from the tone and mood of the call.

The department looks at the time of the call, the duration of the call, what was said, background noises and whether there is a likely target in the area.

Based on this, he said they decide how to advise the building proctor.

"In this case we had no indication to call for an evacuation," Schneider said.

Wilroy said Print 'n' Copy has not fired any employees recently and had no explanation of why the call was made to the copy center rather than to the main desk.

John Nethercutt, the room divisions manager for the College Station Hilton, says their emergency procedure is to call the manager on duty, the general manager, the security manager and the police.

He said they take directions from the authorities because "they are the professionals."

Whether the bomb threat was real or just a prank call, the penalties if a person is caught can range from a third-degree felony to a misdemeanor.

Bryan attorney William W. Vance said this case would be classified as a Class A misdemeanor that carries up to a \$2,000 fine and/or a year in jail.

## Tower spends remaining money from campaign for personal use

WASHINGTON (AP) — Since retiring from the Senate in January 1985, former Sen. John Tower has dipped into his old campaign fund to spend nearly half a million dollars on everything from airfares to lavish banquets.

Last Aug. 1, the former Republican senator reported that his campaign committee, the Tower Senate Club, spent \$1,645 at the Mansion on Turtle Creek in Dallas.

Tower also reported that his committee spent \$1,104 at the Monocle restaurant on Capitol Hill, according to documents filed with the Federal Election Commission.

In addition, Tower reported on the same day that he used the campaign fund to pay \$1,030 for airfare on American Airlines, \$819 for meals and \$51 for a rental car, according to the FEC documents.

There are two payments totaling \$2,938 that were listed as having gone to Alpha Aviation, a Dallas Love Field-based air charter company that offers turbo-prop and corporate jets for private air travel.

Treasury bills, dividends on cash funds and money market interest were all recorded as income by the committee.

Since Tower left the Senate in January 1985, the campaign fund has dwindled from \$466,000 to \$20,761 as of December 1986.

The committee has spent \$498,498 and has taken in \$53,401.

All of the charges and receipts are legal because Tower qualifies them under a "grandfather clause" in the campaign financing laws.

That clause states that it is permissible for congressional members elected before 1980 to

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Hub Bechtol, campaign committee treasurer

use their campaign funds for personal expenditures.

The former Senator was out of his offices in both Dallas and Washington Wednesday and was not available for comment.

But according to a story in the *Legal Times* of Washington, Tower claims all of the expenditures were political in nature and that none of it was applied for personal expenses.

Hub Bechtol of Austin, treasurer for Tower's campaign committee, defended the expenditures.

"I did not see anything on the reports that indicated that an inordinate amount was spent on personal use," he told the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*.

"I think he was a good trustee of the funds," Bechtol said.

In addition to his luncheons, airfare and other expenses, the campaign fund has doled out generous consulting fees to former staffers of the former senator.

Tower recently headed a presidentially appointed commission looking into the Iran-Contra scandal.

Political candidates favored by the 24-year veteran of the Senate have received \$1,000 contributions through his campaign committee.

And one losing gubernatorial candidate, Republican Tom Loeffler, received \$4,000 from Tower over a year for the lease of a computer system.

Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, was given \$100,000 in November 1985, two months after the Tower Senate Club contributed \$50,000 to the Republican Party of Texas and \$18,000 to the Associated Republicans of Texas.

## Beleaguered agency considers I-35 corridor for nuclear dump site

DALLAS (AP) — Rebuffed in its efforts to put a low-level radioactive waste dump in rural West Texas, a beleaguered state agency is looking for potential nuclear dump sites along the Interstate 35 corridor from Dallas to Austin.

Rick Jacobi, general manager of the Texas Low Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Authority, said sites in North Central and South Texas are prime contenders for the dump. Texas must build such a facility within five years to comply with federal requirements.

The agency is reconsidering sites in those two regions after the Legislature failed two weeks ago to designate state-owned land in Hudspeth County near El Paso for the dump site.

Ruben Alvarado, the authority's chief engineer, said the agency is, in effect, starting over. He estimates the project, which must be finished

by Jan. 1, 1993, may be set back as much as two years.

Although the agency has asked Gov. Bill Clements to include the issue on the agenda of the special session that begins Monday, Jacobi said the waste authority could not afford to wait for the outcome before examining other alternatives.

"Our schedule is so tight now, we hate to sit on our hands and see what happens," Jacobi said.

The Legislature has directed the authority to give preference to state-owned land for a site.

The area along I-35 between Austin and Dallas is known as the Blackland Prairie and includes Navarro, Limestone, Hill, Bell and Falls counties. There is very little state land in those counties, though, and the agency hopes someone will come forward with property for sale.

It is an attractive site, Jacobi said, as it has a dense, clay soil and deep ground water and would be equidistant from most major waste generators.

## Tornado damage cleanup at Bryan complex continues

By Robert Morris  
Staff Writer

As cleanup of Tuesday's tornado damage at the Grove Apartments in Bryan continued, residents began their pilgrimage to "higher ground."

Many took with them confusion because of what residents termed a lack of response or communication by the management of the complex with the residents who were affected.

As of 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, none of the residents packing up had been contacted by apartment management.

Although *The Battalion* made repeated attempts to speak to a representative of the Grove, as of 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, the complex manager was unavailable for comment.

Harriet Cranek is a resident of one of the more severely damaged apartments.

"I've been waiting on them to tell us something, but they haven't told us anything," she said.

Cranek said other residents she had talked to had not been contacted either.

"There's no way we can go up there and live," she said. "The carpets are wet and the sheet rock is soggy."

"I went this morning at 8 a.m. and they said, 'Come back at 10 a.m.' And I went at 11 a.m. and they said, 'Come back later.' So I guess I'll go back this afternoon to find out what is going on."

The Rev. David Belasic, of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, was visiting his daughter and son-in-law, an A&M graduate student, at the apartments when the tornado hit.

"As far as I know, no one from the apartments ever came by," Belasic said.

The police and fire departments both were there, but no one from the complex ever showed up, he said.

Belasic, a Lutheran pastor, contacted Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in College Station and several volunteers from the church arrived to help the apartment residents move belongings.

The funnel cloud, which appeared at about 6:30 p.m., caused extensive damage to the complex, located at 3132 E. 29th St. in Bryan, affecting approximately 20 apartments, but no injuries were reported.

Four units from the College Station Fire Department, several officers from the Bryan Police Department and the Brazos County REACT organization arrived shortly after the funnel cloud touched down.

Bryan building inspector C.A. McCollom was at the scene early Wednesday morning and said the metal roof was constructed and screwed down according to building code guidelines.

"A lot of people feel that just because it was a metal roof it was a problem, but I think that we just got high wind in that particular location," he said.

Descriptions of the event took various forms.

A&M student Staci Parkman, whose apartment suffered water



Photo by Robert W. Rizzo

The twisted remains of sheet metal roofing from one apartment unit lie crumpled on the ground.



Photo by Robert W. Rizzo

The Rev. David Belasic peers through what was once an attic entrance of a closet at his daughter's Grove apartment.

damage, said, "I didn't even realize it had happened until the water started coming in."

"I was looking out the window and I saw the insulation blow off and I thought it was just lint blowing out of the dryer vent and then a lot of insulation started falling."

"The water started dripping down along the walls and in the closet. It was really coming down. Then I opened the door to the attic and I could see the light."

Cranek said, "It sounded like a lot of rain and thunder. And then all of a sudden you could

hear the hail coming down.

"We could see that the roof had peeled back and gone over the apartment and then it slid down and landed on top of our cars."

About that time the police arrived at the complex to tell residents to leave before the sheet rock caved in, she said.

That's when everyone started hauling stuff out of the apartments, Cranek said.

A small tornado hit different buildings in the same complex last August, tearing the roof off two buildings.

It also caused no injuries.